

By Saturday's Evening's Mail.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—PORTSMOUTH, Va., July 2.—A very destructive fire occurred here this morning between one and two o'clock. Oxford Hall was burnt to the ground and several of the adjacent buildings seriously damaged. Loss \$30,000—mostly covered by insurance.

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.—The schooner *Hiawatha*, of Rockland, Maine, now lying at our wharves, took fire yesterday, from spontaneous combustion of her cargo, lime. Several fire companies started for the vessel on the first part of the bell, but nothing could be done, save filling up all the chimneys so as to prevent the admission of air, and thus smother the fire. *Rich. South.*

MILITARY DISPLAY.—The National Guard, of New York, one of the finest drilled Volunteer Regiments in the Union, are expected to favor our citizens with an exhibition of their wonderful efficiency on Tuesday morning next. We understand that they design leaving here on Tuesday afternoon, and in returning home will visit Mount Vernon, Washington City, and Baltimore. *Rich. Dis.*

The Fire Department of Richmond have furnished us with their report for the month of June, by which it appears that there were five fires and alarms of fire and property to the small amount of \$200 only was lost, while that saved amounted to \$8000. This report speaks well for the firemen of our city. *Rich. South.*

The Petersburg Express says:—A most disagreeable affair, we understand, occurred on Thursday evening at Clarke Spring, near Richmond, in which Mr. Nicholas Arrington, the well known North Carolina game breeder, was villainously attacked by a number of "shoulder hitters," and so severely beaten that it was thought he would not survive.

The Richmond Dispatch says:—"Next Wednesday is the day fixed upon by the City Council for our citizens to say at the polls whether they will continue to elect all the municipal officers, or have them elected by the Council or the Hastings Court."

COMMERCIAL.

The Markets.

BALTIMORE, July 3.—Flour is dull, but quiet; Howard street Ohio \$4.37; fresh ground City Mills held at \$4.25. Wheat is steady; good to prime red 100/100, fair to choice white 115/120, medium white 110/115. Corn is mixed; white 74/75, yellow 75/76, mixed 70/73. Previous are dull and nominal, with a downward tendency. Whiskey is firmer at 22/23 1/2.

New York, July 3.—Flour is dull; sales of 7,500 bbls; State \$3.75/3.85; Ohio \$4.50/4.65; Southern \$4.45/4.75. Wheat is quiet; sales unimportant; prices nominal. Corn is dull; sales unimportant; yellow \$2.35/2.36. Pork is firm; mess \$16.50, prime \$13.50. Lard is steady at 10/11. C. Whiskey closed firm at 23c. Stocks are higher. Va. 6 1/2 1/2.

Georgetown Cattle Market, July 3.

The offerings of beef cattle at the drove yards yesterday amounted to about 250 head, about 200 of which were purchased by District butchers at \$3.50/4.37 on the hoof, equal to \$2.50/2.75 net. Sheep and lambs scarce and high, selling at \$3 per head.

The Baltimore American of Saturday says:—"There is no perceptible change in the condition of the money market. Capital is abundant and money is very easy. The demand for it is, however, still limited, and comparatively little paper is offering either at the banks or on the street. Money can be had on call with approved securities at 6 1/2 per cent, and prime business paper at 6 1/2 per cent, for endorsed, and 6 1/2 per cent for single names."

We notice a sale at the Flour and Corn Exchange this morning, says the Baltimore Republican of Wednesday, of 160 bushels new white wheat at \$1.60 per bushel. It was grown by Mr. J. S. Chowling, Lancaster county, Va., and is the first reported sale this season.

Private and public advices from England represent trade and business of every kind as quite stagnant. The money market is as inactive as it is here, rates of discount extremely low, and the demand, except for the moment, to provide for revenue payments, exceedingly limited.

ALEXANDRIA.

JULY.

Moon's Phases.

Day	Time	Phase
5 Monday	4:59 15	N. H. M.
6 Tuesday	4:55 15	N. H. M.
7 Wednesday	4:57 15	N. H. M.
8 Thursday	4:57 14	N. H. M.
9 Friday	4:57 14	N. H. M.
10 Saturday	4:57 13	N. H. M.
11 Sunday	4:57 13	N. H. M.

LATEST DATES.

London June 19/18. Liverpool June 20/18.

MARINE LIST.

PORT OF ALEXANDRIA—JULY 3.

ARRIVED.

Barque F. Williams, Corwell, Dex Island, stone for Government.

Schr. Searsville, Sears, Boston, to M. Eldridge, Sailed.

Schr. J. B. & F. L. Pharo, New York, coal by Fowle & Co.

Schooner Diamond State, Kerwin, Baltimore, by Wheat & Bro.

MEMORANDA.

Schr. Lamartine, Grafman, from Georgetown, for Weymouth, arrived at Holmes' Hotel, 24th ult.

Schr. Arctic, Hicks, from this port, arrived at New York, 1st inst.

On Monday, 30th of July, the Post Office will be opened from 8 to 10 o'clock A. M., and from 2 to 4 o'clock P. M. On Sunday's, the Office will open from 8 to 9 o'clock A. M., and from 3 to 4 o'clock P. M.

JAMES HALLWELL will be supported for the Common Council, from the Second Ward, to fill the existing vacancy. Jy 3—E.

MANY VOTERS.

MR. FRANCIS KEYES would most respectfully inform the citizens of Alexandria, that he is able to furnish CLAGGETT'S SUPERIOR ALE, at any time, by the quart, or pint, or by the single glass, at No. 31, Prince street.

PAINT BRUSHES.—We have just received from Sch. A. V. Bell, a large assortment of Smith's celebrated Paint Brushes, acknowledged to be the best in use. For sale by JOHN LEADBEATER & SON, 7 mo 5.

DIARRHEA CORDIAL, for the speedy cure of Diarrhea, Cholera Morbus, Dysentery, &c., prepared by PEEL STEVENS & CO., corner of King and Alfred sts.

DELECTUARY, Sandford's Invigorator or Liver Remedy, Concentrated Lye, &c., received, and for sale by DR. R. H. STABLE, 15 No. 165, King-st., cor. of Washington.

WANTED TO HIRE, for the year or month, a NURSE—a middle-aged woman preferred. Apply at this office. Jy 3—E.

BLANCARD'S PILLS of Iodine of Iron. Prepared by R. H. STABLE, Chemist, 15 No. 165, King-st., cor. of Washington.

LOCAL ITEMS.

VIRGINIA FEMALE INSTITUTE.

The closing exercises of the Virginia Female Institute at Staunton, took place on Wednesday last.

Among the list of young ladies who distinguished themselves on the occasion, and to whom medals and prizes were awarded, are the following:

A silver medal to Miss Gertrude Smart, of Leesburg, for scholarship and conduct.

A gold medal to Miss Annie C. Eustis, of Fredericksburg, for scholarship and diligence.

A gold medal to Miss Lydia A. Green, and Miss H. M. Daingerfield, of Alexandria, for scholarship and conduct.

A gold medal to Miss E. H. Turner, of King George County, for writing, and one to Miss H. M. Daingerfield, of Alexandria, for French.

A gold medal to Miss A. L. Cowan, of Shenandoah, and Miss Mary Alexander, of Clarke, for French and Latin.

A gold medal to Miss C. L. Gordon, of Staunton, for music, and Miss Lucy T. Eustis, of Fredericksburg, for penmanship.

Prizes were awarded to Miss L. A. Green, and Miss H. M. Daingerfield, of Alexandria, for proficiency in the Bible. Miss Mary L. Alexander, of Clarke, Miss L. T. Eustis, of Fredericksburg, Miss C. L. Gordon, of Staunton, and Miss E. M. Morgan, of Clarke, received diplomas.

RAIN.—A most refreshing rain fell in this city and neighborhood, on Saturday afternoon. The corn, potatoes, &c., which had been suffering for rain, were much benefited. The atmosphere was cooled considerably, the thermometer falling from 92 to 85° in a few moments.

CORRECTION.—The weight of the calf raised by Mr. Nelson Gibson, of Fauquier county, should have been 1130 pounds, instead of 130, as appeared in a part of Saturday's edition of the Gazette.

Assistant Surgeon John Vassant, U. S. N., of this city, returned from a voyage to the East Indies, China, &c., is now on a visit to his native place.

The case of the brothers Devlin, charged with the murder of Thomas B. Berry, in Washington city, was given to the jury on Saturday afternoon.

The Daily Prayer Meetings continue in this place, and were well attended all last week.

The thermometer, on Saturday last, at noon, in the shade, stood at 90°.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.—On motion of Mr. Riggs, the Board of Aldermen passed a joint resolution, authorizing the Mayor to anticipate the revenue of the corporation, by a loan, from time to time, of twenty thousand dollars, at a rate of interest not exceeding six per cent. It is to be applied especially to claims now due, or which may be created, for the building of a new almshouse.

The nomination of Noble J. Thomas for lieutenant of the police was referred to a committee; Mr. Chipley for police officer was confirmed; Mr. Coster for commissioner of street improvements, also confirmed.

SHOCKING.—Yesterday afternoon, a fine looking cow fell down, overcome with the heat, on the corner of Pennsylvania avenue and 44 street. This was the signal for action on the part of several butchers, who immediately put an end to her existence by means of that formidable instrument known as the "butcher's knife." Had they left her alone a few moments longer, undoubtedly she would have died a natural death. If the purpose of these men is to sell the beef, we hope the police will not lose sight of it.

THE THERMOMETER.—A short time ago, or at least since the "heated term" commenced, a company of "bon vivants" were spending a short season with one of the Alexandria "Bonifaces," when the subject of hot weather came up, as it always does at this season, for discussion. The landlord said that his thermometer was up to 92° in the shade.

This was doubted by some, and the "machine" was brought in. Before an examination took place, however, the landlord was called away for a moment, when a fact-finding gentleman present, slipped a lump of ice around the bulb.

On the return of "mine host," a bet was offered of juleps round, that the thermometer would not show a range above 50 or 60 degrees, which was readily taken, and an examination made, which resulted in showing a range of but 29 degrees! The bet was paid, and the drinks inhibited, after which the trick was discovered. *Wash. Union*

CARD.—All accounts on our Books will be made off to July 1st, and be ready for delivery on Monday, the 5th. Those of our customers who prefer to call for their bills will find them ready at that time.

Our engagements compel us to call the attention of all indebted to us to this notice.

ASHBY & WOOD, Jy 5

COAL.—I shall be in constant receipt during the season, of RED and WHITE ASH ANTHRACITE COAL, and keep always on hand a stock of LUMP, RUN OF THE MINE, and FINE CUMBERLAND COAL, at the lowest market rates. I offer for sale at lowest market rates.

D. BOYD SMITH, 15 No. 165, King-st., cor. of Washington.

NOTICE.—Our bills up to the 1st of July, will be ready for delivery in a few days. All persons indebted to us, or to the old firm of Meyenberg, Bros. & Co., are requested to settle them as soon as they are presented.

S. & W. MEYENBERG, Jy 5

SELLING OFF AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.—We are now selling off our entire stock of DRY, FANCY, and MILLINERY GOODS, and NOTIONS, at great reduced prices for cash only.

S. & W. MEYENBERG, Jy 5

BLACKBERRY CORDIAL.—We have on hand, a full supply of Blackberry Cordial, a admirable remedy for Diarrhea, &c. Prepared, and for sale by

JOHN LEADBEATER & SON, 7 mo 5.

SCHIEDAM SCHNAPES, For Senna, Bermuda Arrow Root, and Concentrated Lye, for sale by

PEEL STEVENS & CO., 15 No. 165, King-st., cor. of Washington.

FOR SALE.—The thoroughbred premium imported by me in 1855. The above named Bull is sold for no fault, but simply because he has no further use for him. He is 5 years old and a superb animal.

GEO. D. FOWLE, Jy 10—11

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